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Executive Registry

2-0133

3 August 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: General Smith's recommendations concerning the Internal Security Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee's request for an appearance on the part of Mr. Wisner concerning certain aspects of the [redacted] matter.

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1. After hearing a full description of the facts and circumstances leading up to the request of Mr. Robert Morris, counsel for the above mentioned committee, for an appearance on the part of Mr. Wisner before an executive session of his committee, General Smith recommended as follows:

a. That Messrs. Pforzheimer and [redacted] arrange for Mr. Morris to call at the Central Intelligence Agency for a discussion of this matter in an effort to resolve this informally and thus avoid a formal appearance by Mr. Wisner before the committee.

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b. Notify the appropriate officials of the Department of State of this development and what we propose to do.

c. If it should become necessary for Mr. Wisner to testify, obtain an understanding that no subordinate of his will be called and that the appearance will be before an executive session of the committee after briefing the committee as to the sensitivity of CIA and its relationships, and that no questions should be asked about CIA operations.

2. General Smith recommended that Mr. Wisner take the following line for the purposes of discussions with counsel for the committee, or for his testimony before the committee itself if he appears.

a. Make a brief factual statement to the effect that recommendation was made by [redacted] for the use of the persons indicated through an appropriate cutout mechanism

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State & OGC reviews completed

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b. State that this recommendation was considered by Admiral Hillenkoetter who was Director of the Agency at that time, and that he ruled against the adoption of the recommendation and that no action of any kind was taken by the Agency pursuant thereto.

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c. Make reference to the fact that in the course of an FBI investigation of [redacted] Mr. Wisner gave a statement to the FBI investigators - quoting the statement.

d. Make a statement to the effect that General Smith has been fully informed of the facts and circumstances surrounding the original recommendation and determination by Admiral Hillenkoetter not to adopt it and that General Smith had stated that if he had been Director at the time, he would have authorized a carefully considered form of action along the lines of the recommendation. He would have done so because of the fact that by a skillful manipulation of individuals suspected of having sympathies and contacts or connections with the opposition, it is often possible to achieve important psychological and political, as well as military, results not susceptible of accomplishment in other ways. More specifically, through the careful use of double agents deception of the enemy can be achieved - this being a classical and well recognized pattern of secret operations.

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FRANK G. WISNER
Acting Deputy Director, Plans

cc: Mr. Pforzheimer

[redacted]

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
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FROM		INITIALS	DATE
1	Acting Deputy Director, Plans	FW	3/6/51
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<input type="checkbox"/> ACTION	<input type="checkbox"/> DIRECT REPLY	<input type="checkbox"/> RETURN
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REMARKS:

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